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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/749,832	12/27/2000	Barry Wynn Albright	US000399	5207
24737 75	90 08/10/2005		EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			NALEVANKO, CHRISTOPHER R	
P.O. BOX 3001				
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
		•	2611	
			DATE MAIL ED. 09/10/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	09/749,832	ALBRIGHT, BARRY WYNN				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	Christopher R. Nalevanko	2611				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply						
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPL THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1. after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a rep. If NO period for reply specified above, the maximum statutory period  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statut Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailin earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this communication. D (35 U.S.C. § 133).				
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2005.						
•	s action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowa						
Disposition of Claims		•				
<ul> <li>4)  Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.</li> <li>4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.</li> <li>5)  Claim(s) is/are allowed.</li> <li>6)  Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.</li> <li>7)  Claim(s) is/are objected to.</li> <li>8)  Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.</li> </ul>						
Application Papers		·				
9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.						
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.						
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
<ul> <li>12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a) All b) Some color None of:</li> <li>1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.</li> <li>3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</li> </ul>						
Attachment(s)  1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08	4) Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail D 5) Notice of Informal F					
Paper No(s)/Mail Date	6) Other:					

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#### **DETAILED ACTION**

## Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 06/10/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding Claim 1, Applicant argues that "while the reference to Grivna does disclose true and complement data streams, the reference does not displace the featured inverting adapter to invert the DVB-ASI streams. Rather, Grivna discloses a logic 56 including differential amplifiers that are input to a multiplexer and PLL decoder framer that provides a data signal and an error signal. For at least this reason, it is respectfully submitted that the reference to Grivna lacks at least a single feature of claim 1" (page 9 lines 15-21). Examiner asserts that Grivna clearly shows inverting the DVB-ASI stream (col. 3 lines 54-65, by selecting either the INA or INB input, it may be possible to invert the incoming data stream). Since the logical circuit inverts the incoming data stream, it is an inverting adapter that meets the claimed limitation.

Regarding Claim 3, Applicant further argues that "[t]he adapted signal is thus readily used by one of a variety of devices. One such device is a monitor, which in the context of the claim and filed application is a viewing monitor. The Office Action relies on a monitoring function of the state machine 58, which is clearly not a monitor as featured in claim 3. Accordingly, and for at least this reason, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3 is patentable over the applied art" (page 9-10 lines 25-2). First, in response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's

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invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "viewing" monitor) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Grivna clearly shows a "monitor" (col. 4 lines 35-45, state machine monitoring signal), therefore the limitation is met. Additionally, Claim 3 recites the limitation of a "device selected from the group consisting essentially of," which only requires *one* of the listed devices to be present. In the previous office action, the Examiner cited not only a monitor, but a network as well (col. 2 lines 60-63, col. 5 lines 35-40, outputting signal to SMPTE switches and routers). Therefore, either one of the monitor or network can be used to show the claimed limitation.

Regarding Claim 24, Applicant argues that "in rejecting claim 24, the Office Action refers to the rejection of claim 1. Notably, the reference to Grivna is drawn to a receiver and thus receives rather than generates signals. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Grivna lacks at least the disclosure of generating a DVB-ASI signal and an inverted DVB-ASI signal" (page 10 lines 7-11). As discussed above, Grivna clearly shows generating an inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 3 lines 54-65, by selecting either the INA or INB input, it may be possible to invert the incoming data stream). Additionally, Grivna shows that depending on a source selection, INA or INB, (col. 3 lines 50-65, selection of inputs and outputs) the input signal may be inverted or may not be inverted. This allows the output signal, or generated signal, to be a regular DVB-ASI signal. Furthermore, since the claimed limitation is a "method," there is no structural limitation

of on what component or when the DVB-ASI is generated. Thus, since the circuit of Grivna receives a DVB-ASI stream, the stream must be generated at some point in the method. The existence of the stream is evidence of its generation.

Regarding Claims 14 and 19, Applicant further argues that "the circuit 56 cannot comprise the transformer because the transformer is necessarily not included in the circuit 56, but rather connects the coax line 32 to the circuit 56. Therefore, not only does the reference to Grivna lack the disclosure of the inverting featured in claim 14, it also lacks the disclosure of the inverting adapter comprising the transformer" (page 12 lines 1-6). Examiner asserts that the entire apparatus, including cable and circuit, can be read as the inverting adapter or system. Therefore, since Grivna shows using a transformer which is coupled to the circuit (col. 4 lines 14-20, transformer coupled to receiver circuit), the inverting adapter comprises a transformer. The "comprising" limitation is not limiting enough to exclude the transformer from merely being coupled to the circuit.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988)and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, it is very well known in the art that transformers contain primary and secondary windings, even though this is not specifically stated in Grivna. Furthermore, Grivna clearly shows the use of an equalizer

circuit or a transformer to condition the signal (col. 4 lines 14-20). This provides ample support for combining the references, since an adequate signal is necessary to produce the correct output and primary and secondary windings are commonly used in transformers. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna with primary and secondary windings, as in Takahashi, so that the correct signal was applied to the circuit.

In response to applicant's argument that the examiner's conclusion of obviousness is based upon improper hindsight reasoning, it must be recognized that any judgment on obviousness is in a sense necessarily a reconstruction based upon hindsight reasoning. But so long as it takes into account only knowledge which was within the level of ordinary skill at the time the claimed invention was made, and does not include knowledge gleaned only from the applicant's disclosure, such a reconstruction is proper. See *In re McLaughlin*, 443 F.2d 1392, 170 USPQ 209 (CCPA 1971).

Finally, the Examiner has provided the Foglia reference, US Patent No. 4,885,747, in response to the Applicants challenging of Official Notice. The new reference, and subsequent rejection, does not change the finality of this office action.

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

<sup>(</sup>e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an

international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 3, 7-13, 22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Grivna (6,385,745).

Regarding Claim 1, Grivna shows an apparatus comprising an inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 2 lines 54-64, receiving both a true and compliment DVB-ASI stream), and an inverting adapter to invert the inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal).

Regarding Claim 3, Grivna shows that the adapter inverts the DVB-ASI signal to produce an adapted signal (col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal), and the adapted signal is coupled to a monitor (col. 3 lines 30-45, output to state machine, col. 4 lines 38-45, state machine monitors data signal) and a network (col. 2 lines 60-63, col. 5 lines 35-40, outputting signal to SMPTE switches and routers).

Regarding Claim 7, Grivna shows a routing switcher (fig. 1, col. 2 lines 60-64, output port used to route DVB-ASI streams), the routing switcher coupled to an input DVB-ASI signal and producing an output DVB-ASI signal and the inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 2 lines 54-64, receiving both a true and compliment DVB-ASI stream, col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal).

Regarding Claim 8, Grivna shows a serial digital video source (col. 1 lines 10-30, serial interface for producing digital serial video) that produces an encoded signal (col. 1 lines 20-25, MPEG2 encoding), wherein the SDV signal is coupled to the routing switcher (col. 2 lines 27-31, implemented using switches, lines 54-64, used to route DVB-ASI streams, col. 1 lines 30-61, routing switches used for digital video and DVB-

ASI signals), wherein the routing switcher produces an output signal and an inverted signal (fig. 3 items 66, 68, 70, 72, 90, 92, col. 3 lines 10-25, regular signal input from source and inverted signal from source). Furthermore, the DVB-ASI format is a serial digital video format.

Regarding Claim 9, Grivna shows the use of an encoder for encoding the signal (col. 1 lines 20-25, MPEG2 decoder).

Regarding Claim 10, Grivna shows a differential amplifier having an input coupled to the input DVB-ASI signal (fig. 3 items 74, 76, col. 3 lines 10-40) and having true and complement outputs (col. 2 lines 55-63, true and complement output streams), wherein the true output is the output DVB-ASI signal and the complement output is the inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 2 lines 55-63, true and complement output streams).

Regarding Claim 11, Grivna shows that routing switches may be used in the adapter (col. 2 lines 27-32, implemented using switches) or that the entire adapter is used to route and switch DVB-ASI signals (col. 2 lines 55-63, route DVB-ASI, data streams). Also the adapter uses switches, as stated above, to route the correct signal (col. 3 lines 40-65, data may be switched between multiple sources).

Regarding Claim 12, Grivna shows a distribution amplifier (fig. 3 items 74, 76, col. 3 lines 10-40), the distribution amplifier coupled to an input DVB-ASI signal and producing an output DVB-ASI signal and the inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 2 lines 55-63, true and compliment output streams).

Regarding Claim 13, Grivna shows the distribution amplifier comprises the inverting adapter (fig. 3 item 56, logic circuit comprises components including amplifiers).

Regarding Claim 22, the limitations of the claim have been discussed with regards to Claim 1.

Regarding Claim 24, the limitations of the claim have been discussed with regards to the apparatus of Claim 1.

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

- (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 3. Claims 2, 4, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grivna (6,385,745) in further view of Takahashi et al (2002/0145661).

Regarding Claim 2, Grivna shows the user of a transform coupled to the signal (col. 4 lines 14-18), but fails to specifically state using primary and secondary windings. Takahashi shows using primary and secondary windings in a transformer (page 8 section 0107, primary and secondary windings). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna with primary and

secondary windings, as in Takahashi, so that the correct signal was applied to the circuit.

Furthermore, although not specifically stated in Grivna, it is expected in the art for transformers to have primary and secondary windings

Regarding Claim 4, Although Grivna fails to specifically state the windings, which are shown by Takahashi, Girvna shows that the opposite sides have opposite polarity (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+ and INB-, INA- and INB+) and that the adapter inverts the signal to produce an adapted signal (col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal).

Regarding Claim 23, the limitations of the claim have been discussed with regards to Claim 2.

4. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grivna
(6,385,745) in further view of Takahashi et al (2002/0145661), Foglia (4,885,747), and
Wilkins et al (2004/0133924).

Regarding Claim 21, Grivna, Takahashi, and Foglia fail to show using a BNC, or British Naval Connector. Wilkins shows using a BNC in a video distribution system (page 4 section 0082). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna, Foglia, and Takahashi with the ability to use a BNC so that the system could connect to well known and widely used devices and protocols.

5. Claims 5, 6, 14-20, and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grivna (6,385,745) in further view of Takahashi et al (2002/0145661) and Foglia (4,885,747).

Regarding Claim 5, Grivna and Takahashi both fail to specifically state using the equal number of windings. Foglia shows using the same number of windings in a transformer (col. 6 lines 1-15, windings N1 and N2 are equal). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivana and Takahashi with the use of equivalent primary and secondary windings, as shown in Foglia, so that the adapted signal would be suitable for processing and use.

Regarding Claim 6, Grivna shows that the adapter comprises a body (fig. 3, logic circuit 56) and input output connectors (col. 3 lines 10-39, input and outputs), wherein the adapter is enclosed in the body (fig. 3, logic circuit 56), and the body is electrically and mechanically coupled to the inputs and outputs (fig. 3, logic circuit 56 is connected and coupled to the outputs of col. 3 lines 10-39, fig. 3 items 66, 68, 70, 72, 90, 92).

Regarding Claim 14, Grivna shows a system comprising a Digital Video Broadcast-Asynchronous Serial Interface (DVB-ASI) encoder producing a DVB-ASI output signal (col. 1 lines 20-25, MPEG2 encoded signal), amplification device comprising true and complement outputs (col. 2 lines 55-63, true and complement output streams) and an input coupled the DVB-ASI signal (fig. 3 items 74, 76, col. 3 lines 10-40), the true output comprising the DVB-ASI signal and the complement output comprising an inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 2 lines 53-63, compliment INA and INB

input signals), and an inverting adapter comprising transformer, coupled to the inverted DVB-ASI signal (col. 4 lines 14-18), wherein a polarity of the secondary side is opposite to a polarity of the primary side (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+ and INB-, INA- and INB+), whereby the inverting adapter inverts inverted DVB-ASI signal to create an adapted DVB-ASI signal (col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal). Grivna shows the user of a transform coupled to the signal (col. 4 lines 14-18, but fails to specifically state using primary and secondary windings. Takahashi shows using primary and secondary windings in a transformer (page 8 section 0107, primary and secondary windings). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna with primary and secondary windings, as in Takahashi, so that the correct signal was applied to the circuit. Furthermore, although not specifically stated in Grivna, it is expected in the art for transformers to have primary and secondary windings.

Grivna and Takahashi both fail to specifically state using the equal number of windings. Foglia shows using the same number of windings in a transformer (col. 6 lines 1-15, windings N1 and N2 are equal). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivana and Takahashi with the use of equivalent primary and secondary windings, as shown in Foglia, so that the adapted signal would be suitable for processing and use.

Regarding Claim 15, Grivna shows the use of a routing switcher (col. 2 lines 27-32, implemented using switches, col. 2 lines 55-63, route DVB-ASI, data streams, fig. 1, DVB switch) and amplifiers (fig. 3 items 74, 76, col. 3 lines 10-40).

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Regarding Claim 16, Grivna shows the distribution amplifier comprises the inverting adapter (fig. 3 item 56, logic circuit comprises components including amplifiers).

Regarding Claim 17, Grivna shows that the adapter inverts the DVB-ASI signal to produce an adapted signal (col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal), and the adapted signal is coupled to a monitor (col. 3 lines 30-45, output to state machine, col. 4 lines 38-45, state machine monitors data signal) and a network (col. 2 lines 60-63, col. 5 lines 35-40, outputting signal to SMPTE switches and routers).

Regarding Claim 18, Grivna shows a serial digital video source (col. 1 lines 10-30, serial interface for producing digital serial video) that produces an encoded signal (col. 1 lines 20-25, MPEG2 encoding), wherein the SDV signal is coupled to the routing switcher (col. 2 lines 27-31, implemented using switches, lines 54-64, used to route DVB-ASI streams, col. 1 lines 30-61, routing switches used for digital video and DVB-ASI signals), wherein the routing switcher produces an output signal and an inverted signal (fig. 3 items 66, 68, 70, 72, 90, 92, col. 3 lines 10-25, regular signal input from source and inverted signal from source). Furthermore, the DVB-ASI format is a serial digital video format. Grivna further shows the use of an encoder for encoding the signal (col. 1 lines 20-25, MPEG2 decoder).

Regarding Claim 19, Grivna shows an inverting adaptor for DVB-ASI signals (col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal), the inverting adapter comprising transformer (col. 4 lines 14-18), wherein each side comprise positive and negative connections (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+ and INB-, INA- and INB+), whereby

polarity of secondary side is opposite polarity of the primary side (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+ and INB-, INA- and INB+), input coupling adapted accept a DVB-ASI signal and comprising an input shell and an input interconnection device (fig. 3 items 66, 68, 70, 72, col. 3 lines 5-30, input connections), wherein the input shell is electrically and mechanically coupled to the body (fig. 3 item 56, col. 2 lines 65-67, logic circuit), and an output coupling comprising an output shell and an output interconnection device, wherein the output shell is electrically and mechanically coupled to the body (fig. 3 items 86, 90, 92, col. 3 lines 30-65, output on logical circuit). Grivna shows the user of a transform coupled to the signal (col. 4 lines 14-18), but fails to specifically state using primary and secondary windings or a body encasing the transformer. Takahashi shows using primary and secondary windings in a transformer (page 8 section 0107, primary and secondary windings) and a body that encases the transformer (fig. 12, items 14(1)-14(7)). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna with primary and secondary windings, as in Takahashi, so that the correct signal was applied to the circuit. Furthermore, although not specifically stated in Grivna, it is expected in the art for transformers to have primary and secondary windings.

Also, Grivna fails to show that the second signal and housing are grounded. Takahahsi shows grounding signals in order to get rid of noise and produce the correct output signal (page 7 sections 0089-0090, 0092-0093). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna with the ability to ground signals as shown in Takahashi so that the correct, undistorted, output signal would be produced.

Grivna and Takahashi both fail to specifically state using the equal number of windings. Foglia shows using the same number of windings in a transformer (col. 6 lines 1-15, windings N1 and N2 are equal). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivana and Takahashi with the use of equivalent primary and secondary windings, as shown in Foglia, so that the adapted signal would be suitable for processing and use.

Regarding Claim 20, Grivna shows that the input interconnection device comprises an input pin (fig. 3 items, 66, 68, 70, 72), wherein the output interconnection device comprises an output receptacle (fig. 3 items 82, 84), wherein the input pin is coupled to the positive connection of the primary side (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+), and wherein the output receptacle is coupled to the negative connection of the secondary side (col. 3 lines 28-60, supplying both positive and negative, or true and complimented, signals to the multiplexer).

Regarding Claim 25, Grivna shows an inverting adaptor for DVB-ASI signals to crate an adapted DVB-ASI signal (col. 3 lines 1-65, producing a complimented inverted signal), the inverting adapter comprising transformer (col. 4 lines 14-18), wherein each side comprise positive and negative connections (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+ and INB-, INA- and INB+), whereby polarity of secondary side is opposite polarity of the primary side (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+ and INB-, INA- and INB+), input coupling adapted accept a DVB-ASI signal and comprising an input shell and an input interconnection device (fig. 3 items 66, 68, 70, 72, col. 3 lines 5-30, input connections), wherein the input shell is electrically and mechanically coupled to the body (fig. 3 item 56, col. 2 lines 65-67, logic

circuit), wherein the input pin is coupled to the positive connection of the primary side (col. 3 lines 54-65, INA+), and an output coupling comprising an output shell and an output interconnection device, wherein the output shell is electrically and mechanically coupled to the body (fig. 3 items 86, 90, 92, col. 3 lines 30-65, output on logical circuit). Grivna shows the user of a transform coupled to the signal (col. 4 lines 14-18), but fails to specifically state using primary and secondary windings or a body encasing the transformer. Takahashi shows using primary and secondary windings in a transformer (page 8 section 0107, primary and secondary windings) and a body that encases the transformer (fig. 12, items 14(1)-14(7)). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna with primary and secondary windings, as in Takahashi, so that the correct signal was applied to the circuit. Furthermore, although not specifically stated in Grivna, it is expected in the art for transformers to have primary and secondary windings.

Also, Grivna fails to show that the second signal and housing are grounded. Takahahsi shows grounding signals in order to get rid of noise and produce the correct output signal (page 7 sections 0089-0090, 0092-0093). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivna with the ability to ground signals as shown in Takahashi so that the correct, undistorted, output signal would be produced.

Grivna and Takahashi both fail to specifically state using the equal number of windings. Foglia shows using the same number of windings in a transformer (col. 6 lines 1-15, windings N1 and N2 are equal). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Grivana and Takahashi with the use of equivalent primary and secondary windings, as shown in Foglia, so that the adapted signal would be suitable for processing and use.

#### Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Nalevanko whose telephone number is 571-272-7299. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Grant can be reached on 571-272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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